

## REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

**Title of Publication:** Pavement Spring 2006

**Other Known Title:** Pavement Spring 2006 Issue 73: Lost Youth

**Format:** Magazine

**Editor:** Bernard D. McDonald

**Producer/Publisher:** Pavement Co Ltd

**Country of Origin:** New Zealand

**Language:** English

**Applicant:** Secretary for Internal Affairs

**Distributor:** Gordon & Gotch

<b>Classification:</b>	Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 13 years.
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**Descriptive Note:** Not Applicable

**Display Conditions:** Not Applicable

**Date of entry in Register:** 14 December 2006

**Date of direction to issue a label:** A direction to issue a label was not given

**OFLC No:** 602424

**Excisions:** Not Applicable

**Reasons for excisions:**

Not Applicable

**Summary of reasons  
for classification:**

The magazine entitled *Pavement Spring 2006* is classified as:  
Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 13 years.

The Classification Office considers that the treatment of matters of sex within the publication render it likely to cause injury to the public good unless it is restricted to an audience of teenagers and adults.

The publication is a glossy and colourful New Zealand magazine which is 196 pages long, including the front and back covers. The magazine has a stylish and modern feel, and there is often an interesting contrast between the slick advertisements and the seemingly less studied photographs that accompany the articles. Apart from a section at the end of the magazine, the Editorial and a double page round-up of new products, the rest of the magazine is concerned with articles and fashion spreads that focus on young people. The majority of this material is mini essays written by "fledgling journalism students from a variety of high schools and polytechnics around the country" (p16). The essays address a wide variety of topics including identity and sexuality. Many are accompanied by a photograph of the writer.

The fashion story "Metamorphosis" presents strongly sexual images, which stand out in a publication that is otherwise about the concerns of younger teenagers. If this fashion story were submitted on its own it would probably be classified as objectionable except if the availability of the publication were restricted to persons who have attained the age of 16 years. However, "Metamorphosis" does not form the dominant effect of the magazine because it is only 14 pages of a 196 page fashion magazine containing articles and photographs of genuine interest to teenagers. The photographs are also accompanied by a somewhat self-indulgent essay written by the model about growing up and reaching sexual maturity.

The publication is classified as objectionable except if its availability is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 13 years. This classification will prevent any injury to the public good likely to be caused by the exposure to children of sexual material that may detrimentally affect their attitudes. Such material includes writing about engaging in sexual behaviour before being mature enough to make responsible decisions. It also includes the jarring and rather more adult collection of sexual images in the "Metamorphosis" photo essay. Teenagers are likely to be able to assess the presence or absence of authenticity in the "Metamorphosis" photo essay, and to place it within the context of a magazine about young adults and their lives.

The Classification Office has considered the effects of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 on the application of the classification criteria. A restriction to teenagers and adults reflects the concerns of a free and democratic society to limit the availability of publications that deal with sex in a manner that is likely to be injurious to children. This is a reasonable and justified limitation to the freedom of expression.